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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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MOVEMENT OF WOOL FROM SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

One-fifth less wool moved from the 5 principal Southern Hemisphere countries in the 1951-52 season through December than for the same period in the 1950-51 season. The reduction in exports amounted to 154 million pounds, in spite of heavier movement from New Zealand as a result of special sales in August, reflecting slower sales of the current clip in all markets particularly in Argentina and Uruguay.

Of the total wool exports from the 5 principal countries for the 1951-52 season through December, 115 million pounds, actual weight, were destined for the United States according to preliminary data available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. This is a decrease of about 28 percent from the movement to this country for the same period last year. Exports this season have been about the same as the July-December 1948 exports when the wool textile industry in this country underwent a slight recession but are well below the level of the immediate postwar years.

Total exports from the 5 countries amounted to 603 million pounds compared to 757 million pounds for the comparable months of the previous season. The United States took about 19 percent of the total in 1951-52 and about 21 percent in the two previous seasons. In comparison exports to the United States amounted to about 23 percent of the appreciably larger exports for the three seasons starting with 1946.

Exports from Australia for the period were down about 22 percent reflecting lower production this season and the absence of Joint-Organization stocks. The special sales beginning on August 15 in New Zealand for the purpose of disposing of 1950-51 clip not sold due to the dock workers strike caused exports for the period to increase approximately 100 percent for the period, however the current clip is selling at about the same rate as in Australia. Sales and exports from the Union of South Africa are progressing fairly well. Although 14 percent below the record movement of last year exports are equal to these of the 1949-50 season through December.

Season begins July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.

For information on wool production by countries, see FW 5-51, Foreign Agriculture Circular, "World Wool Production in 1951," November 26, 1951.

WOOL: Exports from Southern Hemisphere countries, 1951-52 season through December 1/
with comparison
(actual weight)

Principal countries of destination	Australia		New Zealand		Union of South Africa		Argentina		Uruguay	
	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
United States	49.9	70.4	15.9	22.5	14.0	13.7	28.7	4.5	50.0	3.6
United Kingdom	163.4	83.4	28.4	55.0	30.2	19.6	1.9	0	0.6	0.1
Canada	4.2	1.9	2.4	2.9	0.5	0.2	0	0	3/	3/
Continental Europe										
France	74.3	66.4	4.3	14.1	17.8	16.5	3.3	0.3	1.8	0.2
Belgium	60.0	28.4	1.5	5.8	12.4	8.2	1.2	0.2	5.4	0.9
Germany	25.7	11.1	2.0	8.9	13.5	10.8	1.7	0.1	0.6	0.8
Italy	30.0	30.2	1.6	3.9	11.0	11.1	1.6	0	0.8	0.4
Others	27.8	24.3	2.3	10.9	3.8	2.6	7.1	1.0	3.7	1.2
Total	217.8	160.4	11.7	43.6	58.5	49.2	14.9	1.6	12.3	3.5
Others	39.2	51.5	4.6	6.2	2.3	7.9	3.9	0.9	1.7	0.5
Total	474.5	367.6	63.0	130.2	105.5	90.6	49.4	7.0	64.6	7.7
Percent of change:										
from 1950-51		-22.5		100.6		-14.1		-85.8		-88.1

1/ Season begins July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. 2/ July-November. 3/ Less than 50,000 pounds.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Compiled from official sources and reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers.

The big decrease in movement thus far in the season has occurred in Argentina and Uruguay where only small amounts have been exported, largely old clip wool. Exports from both these countries are down over 85 percent from last year reflecting the stagnation in those wool markets as a result of depressed conditions in the world wool markets and the tendency of growers to withhold for higher prices.

Exports for the season from the Southern Hemisphere were down about 30 percent to the United Kingdom and Canada, 27 percent to Germany, and 46 percent to Belgium. Exports were down only 4 percent to France and increased slightly to Italy while movement to Japan was up about 50 percent.

Practically the entire 1951-52 clip of Uruguay and Argentina and about one-third of the 3 Southern Dominionian clips remained on hand at the end of February. Supplies are apparently adequate to meet export demand for the remainder of the season, however, a pinch may occur in fine wools later on in the season. South Africa's fine wool is moving out normally, Australia's fine wool on hand is less than at this time last year. Argentina will consume domestically most of its fine wools and a shift in production to coarser grades in Uruguay makes less fine wool available there than in former years.

United States Imports of Wool

United States imports of dutiable apparel wools are presented on a calendar year basis and are not comparable to export data shown in the preceding tables. Compared with 1950, imports of total dutiable apparel wool in 1951 increased by nearly 7 percent, however, imports of carpet types decreased by about 64 percent, (not shown on table) for a total decrease of 25 percent or from 716 million pounds to 540 million pounds.

As the movement data for the last half of 1951 indicated, United States imports for the year increased by 37 percent from Australia, 16 percent from New Zealand, and 91 percent from the Union of South Africa, while decreases of 22 percent and 42 percent were shown for imports from Uruguay and Argentina.

United States Imports of Tops

United States imports of tops of hair, which are practically all sheep's wool, in the final quarter of 1951 totaled 2,218 thousand pounds compared with 1,218 thousand pounds in the same quarter of 1950 for an increase of 82 percent. At the same time imports from Argentina and Uruguay, the chief source of United States top imports, increased by about 68 percent. Other suppliers of tops are the United Kingdom, Australia, Italy and some of the Western European countries.

TOPS OF HAIR 1/: United States Imports from Argentina
and Uruguay and total all countries
by months.

Period	Argentina	Uruguay	Others	Total all countries
	Quantity	Quantity	Value	Quantity
	(000 pounds)	(000 pounds)	(000 pounds)	(000 pounds)
1950-51 Season				
October	209	66	109	384
November	253	66	32	351
December	<u>119</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>253</u>	<u>483</u>
Sub-Total	581	243	394	1,218
January	777	250	68	1,095
February	217	52	402	671
March	578	112	334	1,024
April	233	76	273	582
May	302	155	133	590
June	471	340	196	1,007
July	420	831	163	1,414
August	352	637	303	1,342
September	89	<u>241</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>457</u>
Total	<u>4,020</u>	<u>2,987</u>	<u>2,393</u>	<u>9,400</u>
1951-52 Season				
October	147	638	532	1,317
November	63	212	201	476
December	<u>142</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>425</u>
Sub-Total	352	1,029	837	2,218

1/ Includes tops of camel hair, mohair, wool, alpaca, and vicuna.
(Practically all sheep's wool.)

WOOL: Exports from principal Southern Hemisphere countries, wool year basis, average 1934-38, annual 1948-50

(Actual weight)

Country of destination	Australia		New Zealand		Union of South Africa		Argentina		Uruguay										
	1934-38	1948	1934-38	1948	1934-38	1948	1934-38	1948	1934-38	1948									
	Million: pounds	Million: pounds	Million: pounds	Million: pounds	Million: pounds	Million: pounds	Million: pounds	Million: pounds	Million: pounds	Million: pounds									
United States	26	75	130	177	15	24	51	40	2	16	39	53	103	237	87	15	67	121	120
United Kingdom	321	410	448	318	164	205	210	124	44	63	58	85	4	2	8	20	-	0	2
Canada	3	14	16	12	10	16	11	9	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	0
Continental Europe																			
France	110	221	155	139	25	79	38	28	50	54	23	31	48	20	53	20	7	1	5
Belgium	116	102	131	98	13	12	12	9	21	24	21	20	20	9	10	5	10	9	10
Germany	37	18	59	40	7	24	31	14	64	21	24	22	49	5	8	9	31	13	8
Italy	22	115	73	70	1	8	8	5	16	25	9	18	19	10	20	12	13	15	5
Netherlands	13	11	15	8	-	15	15	4	1	4	5	2	2	7	5	4	4	0	1
Sweden	4	11	9	13	0	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	2	4	2	2	2	2
Poland	13	29	37	23	-	6	4	10	3	2	1	1	10	2	1	4	2	1	0
Others	26	9	17	7	1	3	2	1	1	3	2	0	6	8	19	11	3	3	4
Total Continental Europe	341	516	496	398	47	148	111	71	157	135	88	95	155	63	120	67	72	54	29
Japan	132	23	56	77	18	4	4	5	21	3	3	1	7	0	1	12	8	0	2
Other Near and Far East	2	2	-	0	2	2	-	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	-	-
Australia	0	0	0	0	11	6	6	3	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	-
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	0	47	37	14	0	20	10	3	0	-	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
All others	2	34	28	0	9	3	8	7	7	2	5	6	6	6	6	6	0	2	3
Total	827	1,121	1,211	1,025	274	428	411	262	231	220	179	197	306	178	366	180	115	125	156

Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. Dash (-) indicates negligible amount included with "Others."

Compiled from official sources and reports of Foreign Service Officers.

DUTIABLE APPAREL WOOL: United States imports for consumption by principal countries, 1938-51 1/
 wool not finer than 40's, 40's-44's, 44's-56's and over 56's
 (Actual weight)

Country	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947 2/	1948 2/	1949 2/	1950 2/	1951 2/
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Australia	90	253	114	105	45	58	4	88	232	84	246	847	1,557	370
New Zealand	1,720	3,278	348	260	576	331	576	1,456	1,815	742	325	315	1,460	1,071
Union of South Africa	5	0	19	154	17	4	0	14	0	1	54	191	818	679
Uruguay	735	550	1,142	2,249	1,206	327	735	737	667	481	549	307	567	374
Argentina	5,802	11,163	15,133	31,186	29,371	12,720	36,947	34,660	65,026	35,707	22,827	11,408	15,200	20,996
Other countries	1,645	2,123	1,096	1,388	820	514	508	1,389	709	321	575	295	795	1,032
Total	9,997	17,367	17,852	35,342	32,035	13,954	38,770	38,344	68,449	37,336	24,576	13,363	20,397	24,522
Australia	14	31	30	23	100	27	36	168	191	224	99	707	1,546	587
New Zealand	1,649	2,896	1,311	970	2,690	3,436	5,022	8,180	11,025	8,309	4,247	3,551	9,340	6,245
Union of South Africa	0	0	0	40	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	0
Uruguay	196	2,382	2,105	6,078	2,389	2,658	2,975	3,009	3,774	2,029	2,706	1,531	2,007	990
Argentina	295	917	2,260	5,313	9,160	23,815	21,681	11,914	17,500	8,832	7,260	3,332	2,479	492
Other countries	445	810	631	645	605	407	421	613	511	288	311	364	850	639
Total	2,599	7,036	6,338	13,069	14,948	30,343	30,135	23,884	33,001	19,682	14,623	9,486	16,229	8,953
Australia	384	2,578	3,213	2,524	6,149	6,136	3,551	9,672	12,963	9,291	4,301	4,279	10,074	8,190
New Zealand	1,560	3,624	2,557	3,382	14,237	15,306	12,168	32,298	35,056	15,786	11,137	7,394	13,922	18,424
Union of South Africa	30	25	224	1,492	1,856	878	97	491	726	195	54	60	51	179
Uruguay	1,385	6,335	17,836	36,188	11,848	39,378	44,555	60,040	29,349	9,452	14,366	4,661	11,041	11,763
Argentina	1,013	2,524	12,526	46,220	42,620	48,710	30,992	38,958	40,148	14,167	18,875	7,329	10,219	5,214
Other countries	2,334	4,213	7,849	9,687	8,179	17,622	41,077	19,351	12,247	5,530	6,488	4,271	6,552	10,268
Total	6,706	19,299	44,206	99,893	84,889	128,030	132,440	160,810	130,489	54,421	55,221	27,994	51,859	54,038
Australia	6,113	26,500	36,115	235,000	496,349	290,918	206,692	277,945	336,235	204,060	138,701	93,046	124,479	179,049
New Zealand	121	180	105	683	7,354	4,375	2,667	7,525	6,355	5,599	2,841	2,068	3,369	6,884
Union of South Africa	495	8,303	31,008	41,579	75,345	42,557	23,839	37,979	116,339	42,035	31,960	27,293	20,765	40,574
Uruguay	459	7,345	23,203	59,171	13,945	57,618	54,060	79,235	58,334	50,488	84,555	60,912	105,644	79,649
Argentina	1,798	4,638	50,687	100,515	46,185	57,729	37,242	29,184	39,634	17,760	48,465	15,647	43,977	14,646
Other countries	154	1,311	7,487	12,100	5,720	13,107	13,760	14,893	11,953	5,384	14,239	11,528	12,198	17,660
Total	9,140	48,271	148,605	449,048	644,808	466,304	338,260	446,761	572,850	325,326	320,761	210,494	310,432	338,462
Total dutiable	28,440	91,979	217,001	597,352	776,770	638,631	539,605	649,799	804,789	436,766	415,181	261,337	398,917	425,975
1/ Excludes courtesy and carbonized wool. 2/ Preliminary.														

Source: Bureau of Census, Department of Commerce.

Compiled in Livestock and Wool Division, OFAI, March 1952.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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WORLD WOOL PRODUCTION IN 1952

World wool production in 1952 is estimated at 4,070 million pounds, grease basis, an increase of approximately 70 million pounds over the revised 1951 total according to the semi-annual wool report of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. World wool production has maintained a slow upward trend since the 1947 low of 3,710 million pounds and in 1952 is expected to exceed the wartime average, but is not up to the peak production of 4,200 in 1941. This estimate includes both apparel and carpet wool and is on a grease basis.

Generally favorable weather conditions since 1947 over most of the world has allowed a steady increase in world sheep numbers. Numbers were estimated at 808 million head at the beginning of 1952 by this Office, an increase of 4 percent over 1951. This is considered a maximum gain on a world basis and is the result of a continual increase in wool prices from 1945 until the break in March of 1951. Both sheep numbers and wool production in 1952 are expected to exceed the prewar and wartime averages in all continental totals with the exception of the North American and African.

The greater number of sheep was expected to produce even more wool than is now indicated for 1951 and forecast for 1952. However, serious drought in Australia, Union of South Africa, and Argentina, three of the five major wool producing countries of the world, has reduced the fleece weight and quality to a considerable extent. It is still too early to accurately gauge the full effect the recent drought has had on 1951 production and to forecast the continued influence on 1952 production. Receipts of wool into the auction from Australian producers for 10 months of the current season, however, are nearly 50 million pounds under receipts in the same period a year earlier.

Based upon estimates of the spring clip in the Northern Hemisphere combined with that produced in the season beginning July 1 or October 1 of the same year in the Southern Hemisphere. Pulled wool is included for most countries at its greasy equivalent. World wool production is summarized twice each year. The next summary will be in November at which time the outturn of the clip will be revised.

Output of both shorn and pulled wool in the United States this year is expected to total about 260 million pounds, an increase of 10 million pounds over 1951, reflected the increase in sheep numbers and heavier average fleece weights. The more favorable prices for wool and lamb production which brought about the increase in the United States has not yet been reflected in Canada, where wool production is expected to remain the same in 1952 as in 1951.

Wool production in countries of Western Europe continues to increase gradually and is now forecast at about the same as in prewar and nearly 10 percent above the 1941-45 average.

Significant gains have been made in Iraq and Turkey over prewar and a notable increase is forecast for production in India in 1952.

In Argentina drought has reduced fleece weight and some shift from sheep to cattle is again taking place in the northern part of the country.

Wool production is expected to be maintained in Uruguay. However, overgrazing, because of the record number of sheep, and the present stalemate in wool marketing in both Uruguay and Argentina may bring about some reduction from the current forecast.

In the Union of South Africa, as noted, drought has curtailed production in the current season and the world outlook for wool prices may not encourage a return to the higher levels of the prewar period as was formerly expected.

Marketing in Australia confirms the earlier reduction in the estimate of the 1951 clip and favorable weather must prevail if the forecast of 1,100 million pounds is realized.

Wool production is expected to be higher in 1952 than in 1951 for New Zealand. Sheep numbers are up and grazing conditions are relatively stable in that country.

Long and Short Term Trends in Wool Production

It appears that world wool production has stabilized near the 4 billion pound mark, after several seasons in which moderate gains have been made. These gains have come about under very favorable economic conditions, the chief long term factor and were made possible by relatively favorable weather over most of the world, the foremost short term factor affecting wool production.

Now that stocks of wool accumulated during the war have been depleted, the rate of consumption will be determined by current production and as a result production trends have assumed greater importance. The short term

outlook for production is around 4 billion pounds or less depending upon the weather and feed conditions which are, as indicated, the chief short term factor affecting world wool output. There probably will be some minor dislocations in price, supply, and consumption as the present accumulation of wool in Latin America but over a period of two or so years these fluctuations will be evened out, and a return to prewar relationships in production, consumption and stocks is likely. The availability of synthetic fibers to supplement wool will most probably have the affect of tempering the wide fluctuation in wool prices and the ratio of virgin wool to other fibers used will be determined largely by price.

In addition to economic factors, other influence on wool products over a long period are application of knowledge gained through research on breeding, nutrition, and land improvement and management, and the opening up of new land areas to sheep farming. As the implementation of these factors is dependent upon favorable earnings in the past and prospects for a continuation of the same conditions in the future the level of wool production will depend largely on the independent appraisal of the relative advantages of sheep and wool over other enterprises by the sheep raiser.

Maximum gains in production have been made since 1948 as wool prices have become increasingly favorable but along with this increase the costs of production have gone up and if present levels of production are to be maintained the long term average price will have to be fairly high. If any increase is to come about in the next decade it probably will come in countries of the Northern Hemisphere where production is now at a low level and not in the major exporting countries of the Southern Hemisphere where large gains have already been made in the last four years as a result of favorable prices.

This is one of a series of articles on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

WOOL: Production in specified countries, greasy basis,
averages 1936-40 and 1946-50; annual 1948 to 1952 1/

Continent and country	Averages					1950	1951 2/	1952 2/
	1936-40	1946-50	1948	1949	1950			
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA								
Canada.....	15.6	12.4	11.9	9.8	9.5	8.7		8.7
Mexico.....	10.3	11.4	11.3	11.5	13.2	15.2		15.5
United States								
Shorn.....	360.6	238.5	231.8	212.9	215.4	225.5		-
Pulled.....	64.7	46.5	46.6	35.6	32.4	24.9		-
Total.....	425.3	285.0	278.4	248.5	247.8	250.4		260.0
Estimated total 3/.....	451.7	309.4	302.3	270.5	271.2	274.3		284.8
EUROPE								
Austria.....	2.1	3.0	3.1	3.6	3.0	3.5		3.2
Bulgaria.....	28.7 4/	26.2 4/	27.0 4/	27.0 4/	27.0 4/	28.0 4/		-
Finland.....	2.7	3.2	3.3	3.7	4.0	4.4		4.5
France 5/.....	37.1	30.6	29.3	33.9	35.0	40.0		40.0
Germany (Western).....	21.7	16.8	16.8	19.0	17.0	17.0		17.0
Greece.....	19.3	17.3	18.2	17.1	16.5	17.0		19.2
Hungary.....	12.9	5.2	5.4	5.9	6.8	-		-
Ireland.....	17.2	13.1	12.2	12.0	13.7	14.0		14.8
Italy.....	30.4	30.2	28.9	35.3	35.0	35.5		35.0
Netherlands.....	3.1	5.4	4.6	6.2	6.5	6.5		6.5
Norway.....	5.9	6.4	6.2	6.3	7.3	7.7		7.8
Poland.....	6.8	4.5	-	-	-	-		-
Portugal.....	16.3	18.4	18.0	17.0	21.2	22.0		22.0
Rumania 6/.....	40.7	30.2	-	-	-	-		-
Spain.....	70.0	83.2	88.0	82.0	90.0	90.0		90.0
United Kingdom.....	110.1	81.2	75.0	82.5	89.0	88.0		90.0
Yugoslavia.....	34.7	-	-	-	-	-		-
Estimated total								
(excl. U.S.S.R.) 2/	483.4	426.6	421.5	441.7	468.0	478.6		482.9
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 6/8/	310.2	303.5	304.6	314.9	325.0	335.0		370.0

ASIA

Iran.....	36.3 :	29.3 :	29.8 :	24.7 :	32.6 :	34.2 :	35.0
Iraq.....	21.6 :	27.3 :	32.7 :	26.7 :	28.7 :	30.0 :	32.0
Lebanon.....	-	-	-	-	-	2.4 :	2.5
Syria.....	10.7 :	12.2 :	12.1 :	10.0 :	13.0 :	15.0 :	16.0
Turkey.....	67.7 :	70.7 :	75.5 :	70.9 :	67.2 :	73.0 :	75.0
Afghanistan.....	15.0 :	16.4 :	17.0 :	17.2 :	18.0 :	18.0 :	18.0
China <u>10/</u>	88.0 :	75.0 :	75.0 :	75.0 :	75.0 :	75.0 :	75.0
India.....	72.9 :	51.8 :	53.0 :	46.2 :	50.5 :	52.0 :	58.0
Pakistan.....	-	26.4 :	26.0 :	27.0 :	27.0 :	25.0 :	25.0
Estimated total <u>12/</u>	344.2 :	355.6 :	367.7 :	344.2 :	358.9 :	369.5 :	381.5

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina <u>13/</u>	411.0 :	449.8 :	419.0 :	420.0 :	420.0 :	430.0 :	420.0
Brazil <u>14/</u>	35.5 :	45.8 :	45.2 :	48.5 :	47.4 :	51.8 :	52.0
Chile.....	32.6 :	42.3 :	41.9 :	46.3 :	44.0 :	44.0 :	45.0
Falkland Islands.....	4.0 :	4.2 :	4.2 :	4.3 :	4.7 :	4.8 :	5.0
Peru.....	19.4 :	17.7 :	17.2 :	18.7 :	19.2 :	20.5 :	20.5
Uruguay.....	126.2 :	162.9 :	144.0 :	163.3 :	180.8 :	187.4 :	188.0
Estimated total <u>15/</u>	638.9 :	735.4 :	685.0 :	712.7 :	727.7 :	750.1 :	742.4

AFRICA

Algeria.....	22.6 :	16.2 :	12.0 :	15.6 :	19.6 :	22.8 :	24.0
Egypt.....	7.5 :	6.7 :	7.7 :	6.4 :	8.0 :	6.6 :	7.0
French Morocco.....	35.1 :	27.2 :	28.0 :	30.0 :	33.1 :	35.3 :	39.7
Tunisia.....	12.0 :	9.9 :	7.9 :	8.0 :	11.0 :	12.0 :	13.0
Union of South Africa <u>16/</u>	252.3 :	215.9 :	219.0 :	217.5 :	227.5 :	223.7 :	220.0
Estimated total <u>17/</u>	336.8 :	281.9 :	279.4 :	283.0 :	304.6 :	307.2 :	310.5

OCEANIA

Australia.....	1,051.9 :	1,050.0 :	1,031.0 :	1,109.0 :	1,160.0 :	1,110.0 :	1,100.0
New Zealand.....	313.8 :	371.6 :	367.0 :	390.0 :	372.0 :	374.0 :	390.0
Total.....	1,365.9 :	1,421.7 :	1,398.1 :	1,499.1 :	1,532.1 :	1,484.1 :	1,490.1
Estimated world total <u>18/</u>	3,930.0 :	3,900.0 :	3,760.0 :	3,870.0 :	4,000.0 :	4,000.0 :	4,070.0

1/ For summary purposes wool produced mostly in the spring in the Northern Hemisphere is combined with that produced in the season beginning July 1 or October 1 of the same year in the Southern Hemisphere. Pulled wool is included for most countries at its greasy equivalent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Includes Southern Dobrudja beginning 1944. Newfoundland, Netherlands West, Indies, Guatemala and El Salvador. 4/ Includes Southern Dobrudja beginning 1944. 5/ Data for years 1945 and 1946 not comparable with prewar and 1947. 6/ Based on present boundaries. 7/ Includes estimates for Albania and for countries producing 2 million pounds or less, namely Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Iceland, Sweden and Switzerland. 8/ Based on the number of sheep and an average fleece weight of 4.7 pounds per head. 9/ Includes Lebanon. 10/ Includes China proper (22 provinces), Manchuria, Jehol and Sinkiang (Turkestan). Figures for postwar years of 75 million pounds used only to indicate approximate level. 11/ Includes Pakistan. 12/ Includes estimates for Cyprus, Palestine and Transjordan, Outer Mongolia, Tibet and Nepal. 13/ Based on estimates of the Buenos Aires Branch, First National Bank of Boston through 1947. 14/ Estimates based largely on production in Rio Grande do Sul, which produces about 80 percent of the total. 15/ Includes relatively small production in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela. 16/ Union of South Africa, Union Protectorates and South West Africa. 17/ Includes estimates for Kenya, French West Africa and Togo. 18/ Rounded to tens of millions.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to present boundaries except as noted. June 9, 1952.



FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FW 3-52

July 14, 1952

WORLD TRADE IN RAW WOOL IN 1950 AND 1951

World trade in raw wool, in 1951, estimated at approximately 2.2 billion pounds, was down about 500 million pounds from 1950 and about 100 million pounds below the 1935-39 average, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The volume of trade in 1951 was the lowest of any year since World War II reflecting depressed conditions in the world textile industry and in raw material markets in most of 1951.

Trade in wool for the most part is between the 5 major producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere, (Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, Argentina, and Uruguay) and the United States, United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, and Japan. Consuming countries, particularly the United States, have become even more dependent upon Southern Hemisphere supplies by virtue of decreased production of wool in the more populous areas and a corresponding increase in the Southern Hemisphere.

RAW WOOL: International Trade, Averages 1935-39 and 1946-50,
Annual 1950 and 1951.
(actual weight)

Continent	Average		Average		1950 <u>1/</u>		1951 <u>1/</u>	
	1935-39		1946-50					
	Exports:	Imports:	Exports:	Imports:	Exports:	Imports:	Exports:	Imports:
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
North America	7	246	53	823	10	728	2	585
Europe	216	1,801	152	1,755	161	1,831	97	1,528
U.S.S.R.	<u>2/</u>	67	<u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 43	<u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 50	<u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 42
Asia	124	203	94	52	128	89	56	132
South America	454	5	527	10	571	8	239	<u>2/</u>
Africa	259	<u>2/</u>	269	10	212	2	196	4
Oceania	1,095	<u>2/</u>	1,470	1	1,509	<u>2/</u>	1,234	<u>2/</u>
Total	2,155	2,322	2,565	2,694	2,591	2,708	1,824	2,291

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Not available. 3/ Based on exports from primary sources.

For information on world wool production, by countries, see Foreign Agriculture Circular FW 2-52. For seasonal movement data through March and U.S. imports, see FW 4-52, both available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Review of 1951

The volume of business and prices had reached very high levels in the last half of 1950, and when sales resumed in January 1951 prices continued their upward spiral until an all-time high was reached in mid-March. After the price break in March, prices proceeded downward with some fluctuation throughout the rest of the year. Large purchases made at high price in late 1950 and early 1951 accounted for the bulk of wool reaching importing countries in 1951. Purchases after March were light in Australia and South Africa as offerings were practically exhausted and buyers were wary because of falling prices. New Zealand was in the midst of a dock strike which had forced authorities to suspend wool auctions. At the same time, the government of Argentina, by requiring export permits indicating a selling price at March levels, virtually halted trade from that country. In Uruguay, the remaining major exporting country, supplies of desirable wool were at a minimum for the remainder of the season. Thus, supplies available for purchase were limited in the first half of 1951 by heavy purchases in the last half of 1950 and by the taking out of consumption channels as a result of transportation difficulties on the one hand government intervention on the other.

An uncertain market was the chief feature of the wool situation in the last half of 1951. As indicated, prices worked downward in this period because of reduced consumption in most countries. The failure of prices to stabilize caused a postponement of purchases and a working down of stocks in consuming countries to the detriment of international movement.

Movement into the United States was down by 130 million pounds from the 1950 level, while imports into continental Europe and the United Kingdom were reduced from 1.8 billion pounds in 1950 to 1.5 billion pounds in 1951.

Reduced imports reflect for the most part a reduction in consumption of about the same magnitude. World consumption in 1951 was 15.9 percent below 1950, and world trade decreased by 15.4 percent in the same period. There has been a slight increase in wool production in some of the major consuming countries and a slight running down of trade stocks at the same time. This, coupled with a greater use of allied fibers, resulted in a total output of textile and items not greatly reduced from 1950. The ratio of allied fibers (synthetic fibers, re-used and re-worked wool etc.) to virgin wool consumed increased month by month during 1951 until December when the trend reversed as the price of wool became more competitive with synthetic. The substitution of allied fibers was more pronounced in the carpet industry than in the apparel sector.

Exports from countries in the Near and Middle East, which produce predominantly coarse and carpet wools, were reduced from 127 million in 1950 to 55 million pounds in 1951. Exports from the Union of South Africa did not change materially in the two years as the demand for that country's fine wools has remained strong.

Movement out of Australia in 1951 was down about 200 million pounds reflecting complete disappearance of wartime stocks and a slower market in the second quarter of 1951. The strike of dock workers in New Zealand caused a slow down in movement from that country in 1951, although special sales later in the year disposed of this wool, movement in the 12 month was reduced from 392 million pounds to 315 million pounds.

The greatest decrease occurred in the movement of wool from Argentina and Uruguay, where exports declined by 330 million pounds from 1950. The 1950 exports were high because of carry-over from the previous year, however, and because of the failure of the government and producer in these countries to recognize the lower world price for wool in 1951, by the end of that year less than 15 percent of the clip had been exported.

WOOL: International trade, average 1935-39, and 1946-50, annual 1950 and 1951
(Actual weight)

Continent and country	Average 1935-39		Average 1946-50		1950 1/		1951 1/	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
NORTH AMERICA								
Canada.....	6,241	19,337	3,418	40,223	3,369	34,222	2,081	29,822
Mexico.....	2/	2,041	1,120	7,430	64	7,846	3/	3/
United States.....	325	224,498	48,497	775,722	6,684	685,556	218	555,175
Total.....	6,566	245,876	53,035	823,375	10,117	727,624	2,299	584,997
EUROPE								
Austria.....	183	445/ 20,900	493	1,016	1,500	14,166	700	12,700
Belgium.....	98,316	226,345	43,625	218,771	46,418	220,685	31,263	125,742
Bulgaria.....	4	1,693	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Czechoslovakia.....	4/5/ 1,050	45/ 36,387	34,776	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Denmark.....	353	4,149	349	10,384	348	9,568	639	4,655
Eire.....	14,250	691	10,075	5,305	13,052	4,530	6,119	2,788
Finland.....	0	5,772	1,035	8,634	3/	13,812	3/	10,600
France.....	59,575	403,345	18,666	466,325	38,678	453,040	24,932	574,232
Germany.....	0	259,932	381	137,362	1,043	182,623	0	107,800
Greece.....	1,706	7,717	267	7,093	682	14,220	3/	8,476
Hungary.....	839	2,126	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Iceland.....	1,512	0	964	0	558	0	3/	3/
Italy.....	1,040	78,958	1,964	178,117	3,086	142,017	3,203	118,613
Netherlands.....	3,908	16,318	2,054	40,857	1,492	38,962	1,400	20,900
Norway.....	272	2,161	5	8,439	0	8,856	0	4,900
Poland.....	80	46,045	0	47,681	0	50,000	0	3/
Portugal.....	2,188	3,377	2,246	7,300	7,301	1,172	1,849	1,047
Rumania.....	600	1,334	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Spain.....	2,195	12,236	347	6,618	1,693	5,203	3/	3/
Sweden.....	427	16,885	1,608	29,523	0	22,831	0	13,710
Switzerland.....	271	17,234	657	25,346	380	21,330	151	14,594
United Kingdom.....	26,072	628,893	32,934	556,640	44,515	628,550	26,895	506,662
Yugoslavia.....	1,143	8,179	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
Total.....	215,984	1,800,677	152,446	1,755,409	160,746	1,831,565	97,151	1,527,419
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 8/.....	0	67,550	0	43,026	0	50,000	0	42,000

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Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers and other information. -- July, 1952





FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FW 4-52

August 4, 1952

MOVEMENT OF WOOL FROM SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

Movement of the 1951-52 wool clip of the major producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere has been at a lower rate than in the previous season. Total exports for the season through March 31, 1952 were 1,171 million pounds compared to exports of 1,370 million pounds for the same period last season a decrease of nearly 15 percent, and 1,588 million pounds through March of the 1949-50 season, according to preliminary data available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Exports from all 5 countries for the period were below exports of the previous season with the exception of New Zealand where a dock strike in early 1951 halted shipments for that season.

Carryin stocks on July 1 of 1951 were larger than those of the previous July because of the dock strike and the slowing down of sales after the price break in March of 1951. Production was also up slightly making availabilities for export somewhat larger in the 1951-52 season than in 1950-51. World-wide recession in the wool textile industry and the cautious attitude of buyers created less demand for wool in the major exporting countries resulting in decreased trade in raw wool.

Movement out of Australia was down by 14 percent for the period, reflecting for the most part smaller supplies as a result of production decreases. In New Zealand, as noted, movement was up, nearly 75 percent reflecting the two-fold impact of the dock strike which curtailed movement in the 1950-51 season and increased the carry-over at the end of the season. There was little change in exports from the Union of South Africa. Sales and exports in the three Dominions where free auctions exists have been maintained at an exceptionally high level considering the lower rate of world consumption.

Season begins July 1, in Australia, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. For information of wool production, by countries see FW-2-52, "World Wool Production in 1952." "World Trade in Raw Wool" is available in FW-3-52 and current seasonal wool movement data are included in the weekly "Foreign Crops and Markets", all available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

WOOL: Exports from Southern Hemisphere countries, 1951-52 season through March 1/
with comparison

(actual weight)

Principal countries of destination	Australia		New Zealand		Union of South Africa		Argentina		Uruguay	
	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52	1950-51	1951-52
	Mil.	lbs.	Mil.	lbs.	Mil.	lbs.	Mil.	lbs.	Mil.	lbs.
United States	108.5	122.4	26.2	55.5	32.1	25.7	72.4	18.8	103.3	13.0
United Kingdom	238.0	177.7	85.6	138.1	45.1	38.3	6.7	0.2	1.0	0.4
Canada	7.2	3.5	4.8	6.5	1.0	0.3	2/	2/	0.1	2/
Continental Europe										
France	102.8	110.0	19.0	44.6	25.9	25.9	15.8	1.0	5.0	0.3
Belgium	76.2	46.7	6.3	12.2	16.2	15.9	3.8	0.3	8.4	1.5
Germany	35.5	19.6	10.1	18.3	19.2	17.0	7.7	0.4	1.2	1.4
Italy	56.8	67.2	3.6	11.0	16.3	20.6	8.5	0.4	3.7	0.9
Others	38.3	18.0	12.6	18.4	3.5	6.3	14.7	2.1	6.3	3.0
Total	309.6	261.5	51.8	104.5	81.1	85.7	50.5	4.2	24.6	7.1
Others	89.1	79.5	13.0	12.7	5.2	12.9	8.0	2.9	3.2	0.2
Total	752.4	644.6	181.4	317.3	164.5	162.9	140.1	26.1	132.2	20.7
% change 1950-51		-14.33		442.83		-1.0		-81.37		-84.34

1/ Season begins July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. 2/ Less than 50,000 pounds.

1/ Season begins July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. 2/ Less than 50,000 pounds.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Compiled from official sources and reports of Foreign Service officers.

The big decrease in movement through March of the 1951-52 season has occurred in Argentina and Uruguay, where the failure of producers to recognize the lower level of world wool prices, has kept wool off the market and reduced exports by about 80 and 85 percent respectively from the previous season.

The distribution of the Southern Hemisphere clip among the chief consuming countries for the period showed considerable change from the previous season. Only France, Japan, and Italy received more wool this season than in 1950-51. Exports to the United States and Belgium from all major countries were down by about 31 percent, the largest decrease for chief consuming countries. Exports were down by nearly 6 percent to the United Kingdom and by about 20 percent to Canada and Germany. The decrease of about 15 percent from all countries is of about the same magnitude as the reduction in world consumption in calendar year 1951.

Later data indicates that during the 1951-52 season through May, the five principal Southern Hemisphere exporting countries had exported 11 percent less wool than during the corresponding period in the 1950-51 season. Australia had exported 11 percent less than a year earlier: Argentina, 79 percent less; and Uruguay, 75 percent less. New Zealand exported 17 percent more in the period and the Union of South Africa exported 11 percent more than in the 1950-51 season through May.

This lag in marketing during the current season has resulted in important accumulation of wool in some countries. The estimated supply of unsold wool on hand on July 1, 1952 in the five principal Southern Hemisphere countries was about 310 million pounds, clean basis, compared with around 170 million pounds at the same time a year earlier. In Argentina and Uruguay, the total supply available for export on July 1 this year is more than three times as large as a year earlier.

Recent government action in Argentina and a continuation of the program in Uruguay to stimulate exports through exchange rate manipulation and tax concessions is making this accumulation available for consumption in the interim between the opening of the Australian and South African auction in September and the New Zealand auction in November. Although the South American wools are predominately crossbreds the availability of this wool has eased the market and any appreciable upspring in prices at the opening of the Dominion markets in September is not anticipated.

World wool supplies will probably be adequate barring unforeseen international crisis during the next twelve months and the addition of the South America accumulation to the current clip practically precludes any large increase in price over present levels.

United States Imports

United States imports of apparel wool are presented on a calendar year, clean, content, basis, by grade category in order to show the significance of the major producing countries as a source of supply for this country. United States consumption of apparel class wool in 1951 dropped to 377 million pounds compared with 437 in 1950, while imports increased from 248 million pounds in 1950 to 269 million pounds in 1951. The bulk of United States imports of apparel wool again fell in the over 56's or finer category. The already noted decrease in shipments from South America and the corresponding increase in exports from the three Southern Dominions are evident in United States import data.

DUTYABLE APPAREL WOOL: United States imports for consumption by principal countries, 1936-40 and 1941-45 average, annual 1948-51, 1948 through 1951 on 6 month basis 1/, wool not finer than 40's, 40 - 44's, 44's - 56's and over 56's (clean content)

Country	Average	1948 2/		1949 2/		1950 2/		1951 2/	
		July	December	July	December	July	December	July	December
1936-40	1941-45	January	June	January	June	January	June	January	June
1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Australia	121	36	45	102	147	113	377	490	298
New Zealand	1,062	436	103	130	223	101	113	214	332
Uruguay	812	676	221	136	357	66	147	213	285
Argentina	8,345	19,857	10,097	4,925	15,022	2,811	4,805	7,616	6,584
Other countries	1,258	671	187	328	515	153	148	301	316
Total	11,598	21,676	10,653	5,621	16,274	3,244	5,590	8,834	7,815
Australia	78	45	4	65	69	81	249	330	364
New Zealand	1,179	2,846	1,918	1,254	3,172	1,074	1,563	2,637	2,491
Uruguay	1,490	2,296	932	1,833	616	417	1,033	504	869
Argentina	1,172	10,099	3,127	2,014	5,141	1,108	1,142	2,250	1,027
Other countries	592	369	211	10	221	151	96	247	135
Total	4,511	15,655	6,192	4,244	10,436	3,030	3,467	6,497	4,521
Australia	1,829	3,541	1,839	931	2,770	885	1,908	2,793	3,294
New Zealand	1,834	10,524	4,261	3,831	8,092	1,866	3,595	5,461	4,631
Uruguay	7,711	25,213	5,910	2,866	8,796	764	2,325	3,089	1,711
Argentina	4,596	31,398	8,299	3,983	12,282	1,995	2,696	4,691	3,801
Other countries	4,164	9,475	1,961	1,908	3,869	890	1,346	2,236	1,432
Total	20,134	80,151	22,270	13,539	35,809	6,400	11,870	18,270	14,869
Australia	18,948	168,462	51,285	29,950	81,235	20,777	32,191	52,968	43,080
New Zealand	152	2,862	819	879	1,698	543	1,013	1,556	748
Union of South Africa	8,218	21,584	10,084	6,474	16,558	5,572	8,219	13,791	6,943
Uruguay	7,623	32,689	33,767	14,753	48,520	12,236	24,602	36,838	28,636
Argentina	12,240	32,835	17,908	9,317	27,225	4,672	4,537	9,209	13,637
Other countries	2,107	6,084	3,423	4,208	7,631	4,101	2,186	6,287	2,451
Total	49,288	264,516	117,286	65,581	182,867	47,901	72,748	120,649	95,495
Total apparel wool	85,531	381,998	156,401	88,985	245,386	60,575	93,675	154,250	122,700
1/ Excludes courtesy wool. 2/ Preliminary.									

Source: Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.
Compiled in Livestock and Wool Division, OFAR, July 1952.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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November 24, 1952

WORLD WOOL PRODUCTION IN 1952

World wool production in 1952 is estimated at 4,170 million pounds, grease basis, an increase of approximately 140 million pounds over 1951 production, according to the semi-annual wool report of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. World wool output has increased each year since the postwar low of 3,710 million pounds in 1947. Output in 1952, reflecting general recovery from drought in several countries, will not, however, be up to the peak production of 4,200 million pounds reached in 1941. This estimate includes both apparel and carpet types.

WOOL: Estimated world production, greasy basis, by continents, averages 1936-40, 1946-50, annual 1948-52

Continent	Averages	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
	1936-40: 1946-50:					
	Million: Million:	Million:	Million:	Million:	Million:	Million:
	pounds : pounds :	pounds :	pounds :	pounds :	pounds :	pounds :
North	:	:	:	:	:	:
America...	452 : 309 :	302 :	270 :	271 :	271 :	282 :
Europe.....	483 : 426 :	433 :	448 :	465 :	471 :	479 :
U.S.S.R.	310 : 303 :	305 :	315 :	325 :	335 :	370 :
Asia.....	344 : 356 :	370 :	346 :	362 :	373 :	388 :
South	:	:	:	:	:	:
America...	639 : 735 :	685 :	713 :	725 :	750 :	749 :
Africa.....	336 : 282 :	279 :	283 :	305 :	328 :	330 :
Oceania.....	1,366 : 1,422 :	1,398 :	1,500 :	1,482 :	1,505 :	1,575 :
Total 1/..	3,930 : 3,900 :	3,770 :	3,880 :	3,940 :	4,030 :	4,170 :

1/ Rounded to tens of million pounds. Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, November 24, 1952.

Based upon estimates of the spring clip in the Northern Hemisphere combined with that produced in the season beginning July 1 or October 1 of the same year in the Southern Hemisphere. Pulled wool is included for most countries at its greasy equivalent. Late each spring an estimate is made of the Northern Hemisphere clip, plus a forecast for the Southern Hemisphere. Data, especially for the Southern Hemisphere, are reviewed at this time each fall.

WOOL: Production in specified countries, greasy basis,
averages 1936-40 and 1946-50; annual 1948 to 1952 1/

Continent and country	Averages					1950	1951 2/	1952 2/
	1936-40	1946-50	1948	1949	1950			
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA								
Canada.....	15.6	12.4	11.9	9.8	9.5	6.9	7.6	
Mexico.....	10.3	11.4	11.3	11.5	13.2	13.6	14.0	
United States								
Shorn.....	360.6	238.5	231.8	212.9	215.4	225.5	229.8	
Pulled.....	64.7	46.5	46.6	35.6	32.4	24.9	-	
Total.....	425.3	285.0	278.4	248.5	247.8	250.4	260.0	
Estimated total 3/.....	451.7	309.4	302.3	270.5	271.2	271.4	282.2	
EUROPE								
Austria.....	2.1	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	
Finland.....	2.7	3.2	3.3	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.5	
France.....	37.1	30.6	29.3	33.9	35.0	40.0	40.0	
Germany (Western).....	21.7	17.3	21.0	19.2	15.3	14.4	14.4	
Greece.....	19.3	17.4	18.2	17.1	16.5	17.0	19.2	
Ireland.....	17.2	13.1	12.2	12.0	13.7	14.0	14.8	
Italy.....	30.4	30.2	28.9	35.3	35.0	35.5	35.0	
Netherlands.....	6.1	5.4	4.6	6.2	6.5	6.5	6.5	
Norway.....	5.9	6.4	6.2	6.8	7.3	7.7	7.8	
Portugal.....	16.3	18.4	18.0	17.0	21.2	22.0	22.0	
Spain.....	70.0	83.2	88.0	82.0	90.0	90.0	93.0	
United Kingdom.....	110.1	81.2	81.0	88.0	89.0	88.0	90.0	
Yugoslavia.....	34.7	30.0	32.6	33.6	34.3	32.0	32.0	
Other Europe 4/.....	104.5	82.0	83.4	86.3	89.9	92.2	92.3	
Estimated total								
(excl. U.S.S.R.) 5/6/.....	483.4	425.6	433.4	448.3	464.8	470.9	478.6	
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 5/7/..	310.2	303.5	304.6	314.9	325.0	335.0	370.0	

ASIA									
Iran.....	36.3	29.3	29.8	24.7	32.6	34.2	36.6		
Iraq.....	21.6	27.3	32.7	26.7	28.7	30.0	32.0		
Lebanon.....	-	-	-	-	-	2.4	2.5		
Syria.....	10.7	12.2	12.1	10.0	13.0	15.0	16.0		
Turkey.....	67.7	70.7	75.5	70.9	67.2	72.9	75.0		
Afghanistan.....	15.0	16.4	17.0	17.2	18.0	18.0	18.0		
China 7/.....	88.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0		
India.....	72.9	51.8	53.0	46.2	50.5	52.0	58.0		
Pakistan.....	-	26.4	26.0	27.0	27.0	25.0	25.0		
Japan.....	-	-	-	2.2	2.6	3.2	4.5		
Estimated total 11/.....	344.2	355.6	369.6	346.4	361.5	372.6	387.6		
SOUTH AMERICA									
Argentina.....	411.0	449.8	419.0	420.0	420.0	430.0	420.0		
Brazil.....	35.5	45.8	45.2	48.5	47.4	51.8	52.9		
Chile.....	32.6	42.3	41.9	46.3	41.9	44.1	44.1		
Falkland Islands.....	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.2	5.0		
Peru.....	19.4	17.7	17.2	18.7	19.2	20.5	20.5		
Uruguay.....	126.2	162.9	144.0	163.3	180.8	187.4	195.0		
Estimated total 12/.....	638.9	735.4	685.0	712.7	725.3	749.6	749.4		
AFRICA									
Algeria.....	22.6	16.2	12.0	15.6	19.6	22.8	24.0		
Egypt.....	7.5	6.7	7.7	6.4	8.0	6.6	7.0		
French Morocco.....	35.1	27.2	28.0	30.0	33.1	35.3	39.7		
Tunisia.....	12.0	9.9	7.9	8.0	11.0	12.0	13.0		
Union of South Africa 13/.....	252.3	215.9	219.0	217.5	227.5	245.0	240.0		
Estimated total 14/.....	336.8	281.9	279.4	283.0	304.6	328.5	330.5		
OCEANIA									
Australia.....	1,051.9	1,050.0	1,031.0	1,110.0	1,092.0	1,098.0	1,160.0		
New Zealand.....	313.8	371.6	367.0	390.0	390.0	406.7	415.0		
Total.....	1,365.9	1,421.7	1,398.1	1,500.1	1,482.1	1,504.8	1,575.1		
Estimated world total 15/.....	3,930.0	3,900.0	3,770.0	3,880.0	3,940.0	4,030.0	4,170.0		

1/ For summary purposes wool produced mostly in the spring in the Northern Hemisphere is combined with that produced in the season beginning July 1 or October 1 of the same year in the Southern Hemisphere. Pulled wool is included for most countries at its greasy equivalent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Includes estimates for Newfoundland, Netherlands West Indies, Guatemala and El Salvador. 4/ Includes the Iron Curtain Countries, (Albania, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Rumania and Eastern Germany). 5/ Based on present boundaries. 6/ Includes estimates for countries producing 2 million pounds or less, namely Belgium, Denmark, Iceland, Sweden and Switzerland. 7/ Based on the number of sheep and an average fleece weight of 4.7 pounds per head. 8/ Includes Lebanon. 9/ Includes China proper (22 provinces), Manchuria, Jehol and Sinkiang (Turkestan). Figures for post-war years of 75 million pounds used only to indicate approximate level. 10/ Includes Pakistan. 11/ Includes estimates for Cyprus, Palestine and Transjordan, Outer Mongolia, Tibet and Nepal. 12/ Includes relatively small production in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela. 13/ Union of South Africa, Union Protectorates and South West Africa. 14/ Includes estimates for Kenya, French West Africa and Togo. 15/ Rounded to tens of millions.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to present boundaries except as noted. November 1952.

Most of the increase over last year is in the production of crossbred wool. Output of merino wool is not expected to show any appreciable change and only a slight increase in carpet-type wool is estimated. On a clean basis, 1952 world wool output is expected to yield about 2,350 million pounds.

Generally favorable weather prevailed during the winter just ended in all Southern Hemisphere producing countries with the exception of the Union of South Africa where drought brought about poor feed conditions. Substantial recovery from losses due to variable weather conditions in 1950-51, in Australian wool output is indicated while on the other hand a small reduction in the South African clip is estimated. No further decrease is expected in Argentina where production had been cut back because of drought in the past season.

About half of the increase in 1952 occurred in Australia and New Zealand, one-fourth is attributed to U.S.S.R. and most of the remainder occurred in India, Turkey and the United States. The estimated increase in world wool production reflects practically all of the 4 percent gain in world sheep numbers reported earlier this year.

A relatively small increase over the 2,260 million pounds, clean basis, third quarter annual rate of consumption, projected forward over the next 15 months, would lead to an approximate balance between world production and consumption. On the other hand, the presence of larger than normal carry-over stocks in South America should insure an adequate supply of raw wool over the period.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.









